

REMARKS

The Final Office Action mailed February 13, 2006, has been received and reviewed. Claims 1-11 and 42-62 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1-11 and 42-62 stand rejected. Applicants have amended claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, and 48-54, canceled claims 2, 6, 43-47, and 56-62, added new claims 63-72, and respectfully request reconsideration of the application as proposed to be amended herein.

Support for the amendments to claim 1 is found in the as-filed specification at least p. 5, lines 15-32, and in as-filed claim 13. Support for new dependent claims 63-72 is found in the as-filed specification at at least p. 4, lines 7-11, p. 6, lines 5-10, and p. 24, line 21 through p. 31, line 6.

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

Please note that a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was filed herein on February 14, 2003, and that no copy of the Form PTO/SB/08 was returned with the outstanding Office Action. Applicants respectfully request that the information cited on the Form PTO/SB/08 be made of record herein and that an initialed copy of the Form PTO/SB/08 evidencing consideration of the cited references be returned to the undersigned attorney.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Claim Rejections

Claims 1-11 and 42-62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Applicants have amended independent claim 1 and respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn. Claims 2, 6, 43-47, and 56-62 have been canceled, rendering moot the rejection as to these claims. The remaining, rejected claims depend from claim 1 and, therefore, are allowable, *inter alia*, as depending from an allowable base claim.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Claim Rejections

Claims 1-11 and 42-62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Applicants have amended independent claim 1 and respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn. Claims 2, 6, 43-47, and 56-62 have been canceled, rendering moot the rejection as to these claims. The remaining, rejected claims depend from claim 1 and, therefore, are allowable, *inter alia*, as depending from an allowable base claim.

ENTRY OF AMENDMENTS

The amendments to claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, and 48-54 and new claims 63-72 should be entered by the Examiner because the amendments are supported by the as-filed specification and drawings and do not add new matter to the application.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1, 3-5, 7-11, 42, 48-55, and 63-72 are believed to be in condition for allowance, and an early notice thereof is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner determine that additional issues remain which might be resolved by a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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